

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 and 21-24 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-20 were originally filed. Applicants confirm the election of Claims 1-13, and the cancellation of Claims 14-20 for being directed to a non-elected invention. Claims 21-24 are added herein. In view of the amendment to the claims and the following remarks, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending application.

Claims 1, 2, 8, 10, and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Okudaira *et al.*, (U.S. 5,442,213). Claims 3-5, 7, 9 and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okudaira *et al.*, and Claims 6 and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okudaira *et al.* in view of Yokoyama *et al.* (U.S. 6,313,539).

It is respectfully submitted that the references of record do not teach or suggest the claimed invention. In particular, Claim 1 recites: “a second conductive liner deposited over the first conductive liner”. Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 is allowable over the references of record. Applicants’ independent Claim 8 recites; “a second conductive liner deposited over the first conductive liner, the second conductive liner comprising a conductive oxide”.

Okudaira *et al.* do not teach a second conductive liner, as in the Applicants’ independent Claims 1 and 8. Rather, Okudaira *et al.* teach a high dielectric film 145 deposited over a lower electrode layer 144. Okudaira *et al.*’s high dielectric film 145 is formed of a high dielectric constant material, which is an insulator. The high dielectric film 145 is not conductive, as is Applicants’ “second conductive liner”.

Furthermore, Okudaira *et al.* teach a capacitor 148 that includes a lower electrode layer 144, a high dielectric film 145, and an upper electrode layer 146. See Okudaira *et al.* at Col. 4, lines 23-40 and elsewhere in the reference. This is quite different from the Applicants' independent Claims 1 and 8, which recite "a multi-layer electrode".

Claims 21 and 22 are added herein. These claims do not include any new matter. The basis for the addition of these claims may be found in the specification at page 8, lines 14-17. It is respectfully submitted that Claims 21 and 22 are allowable over the references of record.

Claims 23 and 24 are added herein. These claims do not include any new matter. The basis for the inclusion of this limitation may be found in the specification on page 8, lines 4-7.

In view of the above amendment to the Claims and remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 1 and 8 stand allowable. Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that each of the dependent Claims 2-7, 9-13 and 21-24, which depend from independent Claims 1 and 8, are allowable by reason of dependence from an allowable claim as well as for adding further limitations, which narrow the scope of the particular independent claims and compel a broader interpretation of the base claims upon which they depend.

In conclusion, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections, allow Claims 1-13 and 21-24, and pass the present patent application to issuance. If the Examiner should have any questions or feel that a discussion would advance the prosecution, the Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Appendix 1

Marked Up Version of Claims

In the Claims:

21. (new) The multi-layer electrode according to Claim 1 wherein the second conductive liner comprises IrO₂ or RuO₂.

22. (new) The multi-layer electrode according to Claim 8 wherein the second conductive liner comprises IrO₂ or RuO₂.

23. (new) The multi-layer electrode according to Claim 1 wherein the conductive layer and the first conductive liner comprise Pt, Ir, Ru, Pd, or combinations thereof.

24. (new) The multi-layer electrode according to Claim 8 wherein the conductive layer and the first conductive liner comprise Pt, Ir, Ru, Pd, or combinations thereof.